



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

May 7, 2004

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To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
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Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

MOTION TO SUPPORT AB 2064 (GOLDBERG)—STATE CLASSIFICATION OF URBAN PARKS AND PARK POOR AREAS (ITEM NO. 16, AGENDA OF MAY 11, 2004)

Item No. 16 on the May 11, 2004 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Molina to send a five-signature letter to the Legislature in support of AB 2064 (Goldberg), and to direct the Department of Parks and Recreation Director to speak on behalf of this bill at the May 12, 2004 State hearing.

AB 2064, as most recently amended on May 3, 2004, would: create a new classification of "urban parks" within the State park system; require the Director of State Parks and Recreation to adopt a definition of "park poor"; provide that, for the purposes of State grants, "active recreation" be included in recreational purposes, and that "facilities" include places for active recreation, as well as public beaches; and, declare that future bond acts should allocate moneys to park poor areas. The bill defines urban state parks as those in a heavily urbanized county, with a critical lack of park and open-space lands, deteriorated park facilities, and/or with significant poverty and unemployment, high youth crime rates, at-risk youth, and a shortage of youth services. A "heavily urbanized county" is defined as having a population of at least 500,000 and a density of at least 1,100 per square mile.

The Assembly Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media Committee's analysis states that there are areas in Los Angeles County that have just 0.3 acres of parkland per 1,000 people, while the State minimum standard is 3 to 4 acres and the National standard is 5 acres per 1,000 people. The urban core areas have been developed with high residential and commercial densities, but without corresponding increases in public amenities such as parks. AB 2064 would focus attention on urban

parks and provide opportunities to use bond funds to change this situation. The bill would allow for grants to be made for facilities for active recreation and public beaches, which were not specifically allowed in the past. **Therefore, the Departments of Beaches and Harbors and Parks and Recreation recommend that the County support AB 2064, and we concur.** Support for AB 2064 is consistent with County policies which support the inclusion of beaches in the definition of parks for the purpose of qualifying for park funding programs, and funding for acquisition, development, and rehabilitation of parks and recreation facilities and open space.

AB 2064 was passed by the Assembly Committee on Arts, Entertainment, Sports, Tourism, and Internet Media on April 13, 2004, by a vote of 10 to 1, and by the Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife on April 20, 2004, by a vote of 10 to 4. It was referred to the Appropriations Committee, where it is waiting to be scheduled for a hearing. The Committee reports did not identify any registered support or opposition to the bill.

DEJ:GK
MAL:DRS:lm

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Department of Beaches and Harbors
Department of Parks and Recreation